

A BRIEF HISTORY OF MIDALE and DISTRICT

1903 - 1953

ISSUED IN CONNECTION
WITH THE 50th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE
FIRST SETTLERS

Midale as seen from the air





A BRIEF HISTORY
OF
MIDALE and DISTRICT

1903 - 1953



BY PETER HULTGREN

VILLAGE OF MIDALE

Incorporated 1907

"One Never Loses By Doing A Good Turn"

Officers of 1953:

Overseer — E. H. Kramer

Councillors — C. E. Scharnatta, Peter Hultgren

Secretary-Treasurer — Miss Mabel Tisdale

BRIEF HISTORY OF MIDALE AND DISTRICT

1903—1953

By Peter Hultgren

In the early summer of 1903 a number of settlers arrived in what later became known as Midale and district. These settlers looked at the vast open prairie with courage and optimism. The sky looked just as blue and the sun shone just as brightly as it had over the countries from which they came. The abundance of grass and flowers on the prairie served as an indication that the new settlement had all the potentialities required for mixed farming.

Practically all settlers had filed on a one hundred and sixty acre homestead, a gift from the Canadian Government to men eighteen years of age and over. Under the "Homestead Act" provision had been made that any prospective homesteader could

MIDALE AND DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRADE

Extends Congratulations

To Midale on its 50th Anniversary.

N. H. Anderson, President — P. M. Kristensen, Secretary

Sask. Pool Elevators Ltd.

Extend Hearty Congratulations
to Midale
this
Fiftieth Anniversary

Agent: R. D. Wilkie

secure a railway car in which to ship his settler's effects at greatly reduced rates. One half of the car would accommodate room for four head of horses and four head of cattle and some feed. The other half of the car would be carefully loaded with lumber, tools, barbed wire and posts for fencing, necessary implements, supply of feed oats, household goods, and a good supply of food stuff. Scarcely nothing could be forgotten.

The man holding the "Bill of Lading" would usually ride in the caboose to be on hand to care for the animals at various stopping points.

On arrival the unloading would take place. The most urgent task would be to provide pasture for the animals. No one would dare to turn the horses loose in the open, in case they would decide to go back to the place they had left. The railway officials were very accommodating and usually left the empty car on the siding to be used as sleeping quarters for the first nights. It required a great deal of skill on the part of the homesteader to even find the location of his homestead. Some settlers found it convenient to

Congratulations . . .

**MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on reaching your 50th year.**

Homemade, Buttered Popcorn

We are Pleased to Serve You.

**Popcorn Stand
Bud Isely, Prop.**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Congratulates the Village of Midale
on its 50th Anniversary

(The Word alone; Grace alone; Faith alone.)

Our congregation has been happy to serve in this community for 48 years. We have been glad to share in the growth of the Village and Community, providing facilities for worship and helping to point its people to God—the Source from Whom all blessings flow.

Sunday Services each week at 11:30 a.m. or 8:00 p.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Mid-Week Bible Study—Wednesday 8:00 p.m.

Rev. E. B. H. Haave (Pastor)

Phone 57

figure out how many turns a wagon wheel had to do to make a mile. A piece of cloth would be tied to a spoke. Usually two men would start off together with a team of horses. The driver with compass in hand, would drive in the direction desired. The other man would count the turns of the wheel. When the distance of a mile had been reached, they would stop to find the mound by which each corner of a section had been marked. Here a more conspicuous marking would be placed as a road sign. Then to start off again for another mile, and on and on until the homestead had been found. Thus prairie trails were started in all directions in the district.

Realizing the hardships and inconveniences in a new settlement, the regulations in the "Homestead Act" were made fairly elastic. Young men having parents living on farms in the district could "prove up" their homestead while living with their parents, providing necessary improvements had been made. The "Act" also provided that a homesteader could secure title on the homestead

**CONGRATULATIONS VILLAGE OF MIDALE
on Your 50th Anniversary**

First Baptist Church

Midale, Sask.

For 50 Years We Have Been

"Persuading Men Concerning Jesus" Acts 28:23

The Church That

Offers You

A Teaching Ministry

Training For Leadership

A Ministry of Worship and Evangelism

A Ministry of Counselling and Visitation

Rev. D. H. STIMERS, Th.B., Pastor

Phone 19

ST. LUKE'S
Evangelical Lutheran Church

extends to the Village of Midale
its heartiest congratulations
on its Fiftieth Anniversary

Organized in 1939.

President, Ed. Kuhn

Secretary, T. O. Rinas

Pastor Rev. L. Brack

"The Church of the Lutheran Hour"

while living on purchased land on a preferred location. This made it possible for a homesteader to stay within the regulations and at the same time carry on business in the closest business center. Three men went into partnership and plans were made to start building a new town. These men were Olaf Sutherland, Andrew Westman and Ole Wedin.

Up to this time, the place was known as the Halbrite and Macoun siding. A name for the place had to be chosen. It was suggested that the name should be in honor of some noted person. One of the planners suggested "Mitchell" in recognition of Dr. R. M. Mitchell of Macoun. Someone else suggested "Oledale" in honor of Mr. Ole Dale who was the first settler to arrive in the district. A third man suggested a compromise by using the first two letters in Mitchell and the last four letters in the second name suggested, which would spell "Midale". This name was accepted by the authorities as being original, and it is still the only such name on the map.

The same men also gave their own partnership a name being the "Midale Mercantile Company." Their business included a gen-

CHURCH OF GOD

WELCOMES YOU

SUNDAY SERVICES—Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Evangelistic Service 7.30 p.m.

MID-WEEK—Prayer Meeting 8 p.m.

Rev. RUBEN L. SOVDI (Pastor)

CONGRATULATIONS MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on this Your 50th Anniversary

Congratulations . . .

MIDALE AND DISTRICT

on their

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The United Church of Canada

Midale, Sask.

W. DOUGLAS WAITE, Minister

erlar store, post office, lumber yard and later a small grain elevator.

Other activities in 1903 added greatly to the progress of the new town and district. John L. Anderson, who was looked up to as "jack of all trades", starting blacksmithing, mostly sharpening plow shares for farmers busy breaking up land. John T. Lindstead built and operated the first livery barn. Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Hedin had a restaurant and Mr. and Mrs. Matt Erickson had a rooming house. The congenial Mr. Peter Baker was always on hand when an extra man was needed.

In spite of the busy season, a goodly number of the settlers took time off for religious services conducted by the Rev. Olaf Sutherland. On October 25, 1903 the Midale Baptist Church was organized with eighteen chartered members.

The following year, 1904, was also an important year. Dr. Scott moved to Midale and started a medical practice, and his brother served the town and district as dentist. A one-room school was built on the east side of Main Street. The first School Board was ap-

CONGRATULATIONS MIDALE

on Your Golden Jubilee!

Fagerheim Construction

"We Have the Tools to Finish the Job"

Hans Fagerheim

Congratulations . . .

**MIDALE AND DISTRICT
ON A HALF CENTURY OF PROGRESS
from Buffalo Trails — to Oil Wells**

MIDALE

"The Shopping Centre"

**C. H. HATCHER
GENERAL STORE**

pointed on December 1, 1903. Officers of this Board were Ole Wedin, J. T. Linstead and Peter Youngren who acted as chairman.

Two lonely bachelors living southeast and northeast of town were the first to be married. They were Albin Erickson and Alfred Swanson. Mr. Erickson brought his bride from Alexandria, Minnesota, and Mr. Swanson found his "elect" one mile east of Midale.

In 1905 the Norwegian Lutheran Church was founded. The first pastor to serve the church was the Rev. O. B. Saunders. In the same year it was found that the one-room school was too small, and a two-room brick building was erected on its present site. The old school building was purchased by the Weyburn Security Company and became the first bank. The first manager was Charley Johnson. Lars Lindbom built and operated a large livery barn. During the years to follow, Mr. Lindbom and Sons were of great service, not only to the town, but to the whole community. The C.P.R. station as it now stands was also built, with Mr. L. A. Saunders as agent.

During 1906 and 1907 several new buildings sprang up. The



RED & WHITE



**CONGRATULATE
MIDALE AND DISTRICT**

on your

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY — 1903-1953

We Have Enjoyed Serving You — 1939-1953

ARCHIBALD'S

You Patronage Is Appreciated

CONGRATULATIONS
From the Young to the Old!
Midale Home & School Assoc.

Our age is only three
But you can clearly see
That we have come to be
A part of the community.

Meetings held Last Thursday Nite of Each Month
September thru May.

Rev. D. H. Stimers, President — Mrs. E. Lockwood, Sec.-Treas.

Wedin brothers, Ole and Andrew, built a larger store adjacent to the former, which was sold to M. A. Moser and was used as a restaurant. The hotel was built by Adolph Lytze and was named in honor of his wife, Frances. Harry E. Koch built and operated a drug store. The building of the Baptist church also dates back to 1907. In recognition of the generous contribution to the "building fund" by non-members as well as members, ministers from other recognized church denominations were welcome to hold services in this church. This building was also used for a large Union Sunday School until such time as other churches were built to accommodate the growing population of town and district.

That same year Midale was incorporated as a village. J. V. Flury served as overseer, and later held the office of Secretary-Treasurer over a period of ten years.

As an indication of a promising grain growing district, Midale already had three elevators. They were, The Farmer's Elevator Co., The Johnson Elevator and the Lake of the Woods elevator. Bert Houghtling was employed as agent for the Farmer's Elevator and

The Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L.

Midale Branch No. 238
Organized 1943

**Congratluations Midale and District
on your 50th Anniversary**

We are a service organization
supporting all local activities.

Meetings held the second Wednesday of each month.

President, Leonard Sandvold
Secretary-Treasurer, Art Hultgren

Congratulation MIDALE
on your Golden Jubilee

R.M. of CYMRI No. 36

Organized 1909

OFFICERS 1909

Reeve — Olaf Sutherland

Councillors:

A. M. Crawshaw, Chas.
Marks, A. H. Hanson, P.
B. Peterson, M. L. Nelson,
C. W. Towne.

Sec.-Treas. — A. Westman.

OFFICERS 1953

Reeve — K. J. Tangen

Councillors:

J. W. C. McLeod, Roy
Geske, Arthur Clauson,
Arthur Englund, Ed. Mey-
ers, Floyd Dalgleish.

Sec.-Treas. - G. A. Molberg

remained in the grain buying business close to forty-five years, when he resigned in favour of his son Keith, present agent for the Federal elevator. Other agents at that time were, W. C. Johnson for the Johnson elevator, and V. R. Deacon for the Lake of the Woods elevator whose present agent is Mr. J. Pollock.

Other business places dating back to these early years were, Flury and Krough Store, Giles Hardware Store, Moser Barber Shop, Peckinpaugh Restaurant, and Butcher Shop, Casper Flury Hardware, Ed. Jensen Store and Flury and Oscar Rederberg Store.

In 1909 the Rural Municipality of Cymri, No. 36 was organized. Olaf Sutherland served as the first reeve and Andrew Westman was the first secretary-treasurer. Up to that time the district had been governed as a Local Improvement District. That year also the first rural telephone line was in operation.

The first Midale band was started in 1910 under the leadership of Joe Murry. About twenty members were enrolled with such familiar names as David Anderson, J. V. Flury, Alvin Marks and Albert Wedin among them. Later the leadership was taken over by

Congratulations . . .

MIDALE

on your Fiftieth Anniversary

Midale Locker Plant

"Your Frozen Food Centre"

E. H. Kramer, Proprietor

P. M. Kristensen

Distributor for
British American Oil Company
INSURANCE AGENT

**Congratulations to Midale
as it reaches the Half Century Mark
in its history.**

William Shippam. The band formed an important part in community life. No fair or celebration was officially opened without first having a selection by the band.

The year 1911 was a year which must not be forgotten. By this time a goodly number of country schools were in operation. The number of children in the Midale School District had increased to such an extent that two rooms had to be added to the Midale school. During the summer the United Church was built. The first pastor serving this church was the Rev. Gamble. The organization of the church known at that time as the Methodist Church, leads back a few years. The board members were J. V. Flury, F. N. Noble and Fred Wright. Charles Marks served at a time as Superintendent and teacher in the Union Sunday School referred to above.

The Baptist parsonage was purchased from a man who left for England.

In that year also Dr. Mainprize came to Midale. At the age of twenty-two he had graduated from college with a Medical Doc-

B. E. HOUGHTLING

Dealer in Lignite and Western Coal

**Congratulations to
Midale and District
on its First Half Century.**

B. E. HOUGHTLING

Manley & Berquist
AUTO TRANSPORT
Midale, Sask.

**HAVE YOUR NEW CAR
HAULED BY TRANSPORT**

CONGRATULATIONS MIDALE
on 50 Years of Progress
1903 — 1953

Albert M. Manley

Lloyd F. Berquist

tor's Degree. This young doctor started his medical career in Midale, taking over Dr. Scott's office. He soon captured the hearts and minds of both young and old. Many beautiful maidens looked in amazement at the boyish doctor as he skilfully manoeuvered his shining 1911 Model T Ford coupe. The doctor, however, did not seem to pay too much attention to these maidens as he had spotted a blue-eyed blonde, as yet too young to be married, but he had it all figured out that she was worth waiting for. After a few years Miss Helen Wedin became the "bride of his choice."

The first long distance telephone was operated by Harry Koch in his drug store, but after 1911 both rural and long distance calls were handled at the newly built telephone office. Miss Julia Evans was the first operator, followed by Mrs. Hill, Miss Hazel Draves, Miss Ursula Flury and the present operators, Mrs. Freda Peterson and Mrs. Esther Hanna.

Since the large hall on top of the Wedin Brothers Store had burned down together with the store, it became necessary to issue

**Congratulations Midale and District
On Your Fiftieth Anniversary**

ANDERSON and LEE

J. I. Case Farm Machinery — Imperial Oil Products
Fairbanks Morse Water Systems
Thor and Gibson Appliances

MIDALE

SASK.

WE ARE PROUD . . .

. . . to join with the people of Midale and District in celebrating this their Fiftieth Anniversary.

For the past twenty years it has been our pleasure to serve you—and to watch and share in the growth and development of our District.

At all times we have endeavored to carry a complete stock of Quality Merchandise at the lowest possible price—and will follow this Policy throughout the years to come.

M. A. ARMSTRONG

General Merchant

"Where Customers Send Their Friends"

Phone 26

another debenture to finance the building of a Village Hall. This Hall still serves its purpose; although on special occasions a larger hall is needed.

Time and space does not permit to render a further yearly account of the growth and activity of town and district over the years. Only a few scattered references will be given here and there.

In 1924 the Saskatchewan Pool Elevator was built. Mr. Russel was the first agent at this elevator. Several other men have been employed of whom the best known are Reuben Berg, and Fred Picker until up to the time the present agent, Mr. Roy Wilkie, took over.

The Midale Co-operative Creamery was built in 1926 and was successfully operated for a number of years.

In 1931 the Village through debenture, purchased its first lighting plant. R. J. Eckel was the first operator. Other operators were Axel Magnuson and Mac Achen. This plant was used until 1945 when the Saskatchewan Power Commission secured the fran-

HOTEL FRANCES

1906 — 1953

TRY OUR UP-TO-DATE CAFE

"We are here to Please You"

Congratulations To
MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on your Fiftieth Anniversary

TONY DER

W. C. SCHARNATTA & SON

General Blacksmiths

Shares, Wagons, Buggies,
Forge and Acetylene Welding

Established 1903

Congratulate Midale and District
on their Fifty Years of Progress

Latest Development: "Our Neighboring Oil Wells"

chise. With dependable electricity available, more and more electrical appliances were put to use.

A large building, owned by Mr. H. Westergaard of Macoun, was donated to the Norwegian Lutheran Church and was moved to Midale in the early part of 1933. This building was remodelled to become a fine church building. Up until just recently, the church was served from Macoun and Estevan. In 1953 progress was made by dividing the parish so as to have a resident pastor in Midale. A fine new parsonage has been built which has been occupied since May 14 by Pastor and Mrs. E. B. R. Haave and family.

The Church of God was organized in 1944, and in the same year both the church building and parsonage were made suitable to fill the needs of this organization. Rev. Arnold Erickson served as its first pastor.

During the years of their existence all the local churches have had a great and lasting influence for good and for the upbuilding of desirable fine characters.

Congratulations Midale on 50 Years
of Progress and Service
to Your People.

G. A. H. MOLBERG

NOTARY PUBLIC
MIDALE — SASK.

Insurance — Real Estate — Conveyancing
"Insure to be Sure"

HOME RADIO

Midale, Sask.

"FIRST IN TV"

Extends Congratulations to
Midale and District
for 50 Years of Progress.

GORDON CARLSON

Various ladies organizations have been very active from year to year. Their interest and activities in "good works" have been a source of value, not only within their own organizations, but has often reached far beyond their own borders.

Two rooms were added to the Midale School in 1951 and in 1952 another room had to be arranged for. The present members of the School Board are Arthur Hultgren, Norman Anderson and George Hardy, with Miss Mabel Tisdale as secretary-treasurer.

During the intervening years from the early business establishments previously mentioned up to, but not including, the present, the following have been in business in Midale:

General Merchants—Albert Wedin and L. A. Saunders, E. Jensen and C. Peterson.

Hardware—Casper Flury, Mackie, Tidy, and Stirton and McIntyre.

Implement Dealers—Andrew Westman, L. A. Anderson, Ed. Wright, Frank Noble, S. A. Sorsdahl, Percy Speers, George Hardy, Elmer Kramer and Lorne Kramer.

L. J. Ironside Dairy

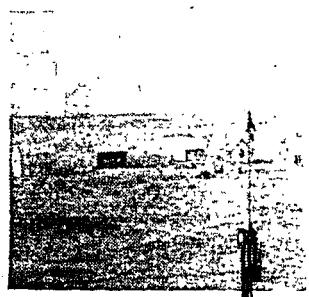
Milk Sold at Midale Locker Plant

Congratulations MIDALE
on 50 Years of Progress
1903 — 1953

MIDALE....

A Few Aspects

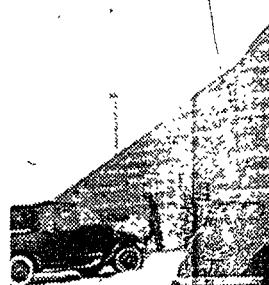
Right—This is the first picture ever taken of Midale and shows the town as it appeared in 1909



Upper—To help build Midale Community Memorial Rink, members of the Midale Branch of the Canadian Legion seeded a wheat crop. They held a "bee" to do the work.

Lower—An airport building was converted, remodelled, altered and added to in 1949, giving Midale its fine Union Hospital Building.

Right—This is a winter view of the front of Midale's Community Memorial Rink.





Dr. W. G. Mainprize at his desk in the Hospital.



TRUMAN'S DAIRY

Table Cream available at all times.

"We try to please those who want the best"

Congratulations Midale on its 50 th Anniversary!

C. W. TRUMAN

Drug Store—Arnold Erb.

Garages—R. Berndt, Carl Berndt, Charley Horsman, Barney Draves, George Draves, Frank Noble, Rudy Eckel and Axel Magnuson.

Bank Managers—Fred Salstrom, Phil Carter and R. L. Wasson.

Lumber Yard Agents—Andrew Westman, Sam Molberg, W. M. Campbell, J. V. Flury and Howard Guthrie.

Dray Men—C. Tucker, Elmer Kramer, Emil Ostlund, Andrew Martinson, John Johnson, Hans Fagerheim, Edwin Torgunrud, Stanley Sjodin and Irwin Gilchrist.

Livery Barn—C. Tucker and Elmer Kramer, Midale-Chandler Transfer: R. Berndt and Dave Hardy and later Emil Ostlund.

Blacksmithing—Henryhen, Barnhart, Carle Peterson, Ole Kletter, Forley, Jack Linstead, Sansborn, William Shippam and D. Flury.

Feed Mill—McFadden, Ed. Post, John Flury and Emil Ansting. Shoe and Harness Repair—Charley Kreglund, John Meyers, Maurice Jacobson, John Jacobson and presently Oliver Torgenrud.

Real Estate Agent—Homer Grant.

FEDERAL GRAIN LTD.

Grain Dealers

and

Distributor for Chipman Chemicals

Congratulations to
MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on your Fifthieth Anniversary

K. L. HOUGHTLING

SCHNEIDER DAIRY

We Deliver Fresh Milk and Cream Daily

CONGRATULATIONS . . .

To Midale and District
on your 50th Anniversary!

NICK SCHNEIDER

Barber Shop—Charley Jern and Severt Stufloten.

Beauty Parlors—Mrs. George Draves, Mrs. Axel Magnuson, Mrs. Emil Swenson, Mrs. Lauritz Egland, Miss Josephine Hammond, and Miss Isabel Stabenow.

Painters—Hugo Hoipkemeir and Ed. Carlson.

Hotel—C. Parsel, Dave Hardy, C. Maston, V. R. Deacon, Fred Engel, Chris Anderson, P. Stalberg and C. J. Daum.

Restaurants—Ab. Peterson, M. A. Moser, Peckinpaugh and Swingle, George Ben, R. Mitchel, Inez Emde, Knutson, Mrs. Esther Hanna, H. Isely and Walter Rosengren.

Post Office—Andrew Westman, and the present postmistress Mrs. Vivian Magnuson.

C.P.R. Station Agents—Hans Egland, Hine, and the present agent, Mr. Thomas Armstrong.

Special mention of a poultry farm on the outskirts of town and egg candling business might be of interest. In 1942, Andy Lee erected a poultry building 31'x175'. The walls were scientifically

**Congratulations
MIDALE**

on your 50 Years of
Growth and Progress.

“Power is our Line”

M. M. Achen - Electrician

Congratulations . . .

Midale on your
GOLDEN JUBILEE
THE SPEER HARDWARE

has been pleased to serve your people
for more than a Quarter of a Century.

H. P. Speer, Prop.

constructed of tempered, pressed top soil to a hardness equal to wood. Throughout the years an extensive poultry and egg producing business developed. The highest number of chickens at one time was two thousand, four hundred birds, including chicks and all. The highest egg laying in one day was sixty-five dozen. Mr. Lee also is in the egg candling business. As an evidence of poultry and egg production in the district, there is at his egg candling station a business turnover of \$14,000 a year. The highest number of eggs purchased in one day was nine hundred dozen.

The following immediate references are made regarding the administration of the town and the municipality:

Village Secretary-Treasurers—Harry Koch, Elmer Kristensen, Archie Ostlund, Paul Barker, Jack Pollock and the present Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Mabel Tisdale.

R.M. Secretary-Treasurers—Samuel Molberg, Miss Sarah Molberg and the present Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. A. H. Molberg.

Village Overseers—J. M. Peck npaugh, Alfred Erickson, V. R. Deacon, A. C. Draper, C. H. Hatcher and the present Mr. E. Kramer.

**CONGRATULATIONS
MIDALE**

(New Oil Center of Southern Saskatchewan)
**ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF FIFTY YEARS
OF PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT**

Beaver Lumber Company Ltd.

Your Plywood Headquarters
G. H. Morris - - Manager

Congratulations . . .

MIDALE AND DISTRICT
ON YOUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

All Roads Lead to the Oil Wells

C. E. Scharnatta

R. M. Reeves—M. L. Nelson, Charley Marks, Peter B. Peterson, Peter Hultgren and John Tangen who is the present Reeve.

Village Council—Oscar Magnuson, S. A. Sorsdahl, R. L. Berg, D. L. Flury, Hans Egland, C. H. Hatcher and Norman Anderson.

R. M. Council—M. Olmstead, McLeod, Alex Sinclair, Abe Hanson, Clarence Towne, Ed. Anderson, Wm. Floding, Lars Lindbom, Emil Clauson, L. Johnson, Ed. Rubin, Nick Eide, Fred Isely, Alfred Hilchier, Ira Horsman, and Elwin Affie.

In considering the history of Midale and District thus far, it might appear as if there have been only good crops and favorable conditions for both farmers and business men throughout the fifty year period. This, however, is not so. Occasionally people talk about the period of depression. This was a mysterious something which no one seemed to be able to understand or satisfactorily explain. To the average man it appeared as if those with capital locked up their money in such a way as to make it almost impossible to get hold of any. Coupled with this, the farmers of this district had either total or partial crop failures year after year. These failures

Midale Candling Station

Buyers of Eggs and Poultry
Extends

Congratulations to Midale and District
on the occasion of your 50th Anniversary.

ANDREW LEE, Prop.

50th ANNIVERSARY
CONGRATULATIONS,
MIDALE.

Grisdale Drugs

Midale, Sask.

were caused by frost, rust, drought and hordes of grasshoppers. According to Government statistics, the average yield of wheat in the R.M. of Cymri, No. 36 from 1930 to 1940 was only about two bushels per seeded acre. To make things worse, the prices of other agricultural products were kept extremely low. Due to total crop failure in 1937, the price for canner cows at shipping points was fixed by the government at one cent per pound and prices for other grades of cattle, hogs and poultry were held at a comparative value. At one time in the past it is recorded that wheat was sold as low as thirty-two cents, oats and barley at nine cents per bushel and eggs as low as five cents per dozen and so on.

Under such conditions, no matter how hard the farmers worked and how much they tried to save, they were forced to get deeper and deeper into debt. Farm mortgages kept growing until in most cases they far exceeded the value of the farms at that time. Horses grew old and most of the implements were worn out before they were paid for. Such were the farmers' plights, and as a matter of necessity the municipality had to be involved. In an effort to assist

Congratulations . . .
TO VILLAGE OF MIDALE
on its 50th Anniversary

WALTER ROSENGREN
"Commercial Trucking"
Established 1947

For Quick and Dependable Service — Phone 83

Congratulations . . .

**TO
MIDALE AND DISTRICT
ON THEIR
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY**

SHELL OIL COMPANY

the needy farmers with feed, seed and other necessities of life, the municipality was placed in an almost hopeless financial condition. At the lowest ebb, the municipality had an indebtedness of about \$400,000.

This deplorable situation in the rural district had its effect on business as customers had very little purchasing power. To make it still worse for the business men, Midale has had its share of destruction caused by fires. In the years 1910 and 1914 and 1939 and 1948 large business establishments were burned to the ground.

Of those who have suffered losses by fires and who are still in business in Midale are M. A. Moser, Stirton and E. Speer and P. S. Archibald. Men like these deserve the highest respect from their fellow citizens. The first mentioned, sometimes referred to as the barber-preacher, has been burned out three times. Since the last fire, Mr. Moser has gathered a large curio-collection of war souveniers, Indian battle axes, and relics of all sorts telling their silent stories of vanished Indian tribes or stories leading back perhaps to the Stone Age. It is estimated that this Museum-Barber Shop

Lindquist Equipment Service

International Harvester and
Kern Farm Equipment Dealer

**Wishes Congratulations to Midale and District
on your 50th Anniversary.**

I have been pleased to serve you since 1941
and hope to continue many more years to come.

Stanley Lindquist, Prop.

Martinson Motors

Phone 31
Midale, Sask.

- General Repair Service
- Canadian Oil Products
- Acetylene & Electric
- Welding
- Batteries, Tires, Tubes, Etc.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MIDALE

upon their 50th Anniversary — 1903-1953

Having lived in Midale and district since 1912 I have enjoyed the fellowship of its citizens and appreciated greatly our business contracts.

Erling Martinson

contains about 12,000 items of interest for sightseers to behold.

Two world wars have also taken their heavy toll in lives, manpower and capital. Midale, in comparison with some other places of its size, perhaps was fortunate. However, two promising young men lost their lives as a sacrifice to preserve the freedom of others. A large number of other young men and also three young ladies enlisted for various military services, of whom seventy-six are on the Honor Roll. Three of these were awarded the D.F.C. This is indeed a splendid record.

The local branch of the Canadian Legion was organized in June of 1944. The officers elected at the formation were, P. S. Archibald, president and Albert Manley, secretary-treasurer. It began with eighteen members who had been veterans of both world wars. The membership later grew to forty.

Now as the citizens of Midale and District are looking back over the past fifty years, they have reasons to be thankful and acknowledge their gratitude to God for changed conditions existing compared to those in the "dusty thirties." There is no reason any

Midale Co-operative Association

Takes this opportunity to Congratulate
THE VILLAGE OF MIDALE
on your 50th Anniversary — 1903-1953

"Your Patronage Builds Your Co-op."

Palmer A. Hansen, Manager.

To The Village of Midale
We Extend
Our Congratulations
On Its 50th Anniversary.

The biggest, little town,
With oil all around,
And the **RITE SPOT CAFE**
That serves people every day.

Mrs. Dunham, Prop.

longer to call this locality "the dried out area." Rain has fallen and the grasshoppers have left the district. Fair to good crops have been harvested and prices for agricultural products have been satisfactory.

The farmers have not been standing idly by and a most amazing recovery has been experienced. Mortgages and other debts have been paid off in less time than expected. Farms have been purchased and in most cases these farms are paid for in full. New implements, cars and trucks are seen most everywhere and modern conveniences are being used in an ever-increasing number of homes. Taxes, as a rule, are no longer being kept in arrears so the municipal debt mentioned in the foregoing has been settled long ago. This was made possible through government cancellation of direct relief, feed and fodder and fifty per cent of 1938 seeding advances.

Instead of debts, the municipality owns and operates a fairly complete line of modern road building equipment. Both council and ratepayers have the satisfaction of having a new up-to-date office building on the old site, the old building having been sold and moved away.

Congratulations . . .

MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on the occasion of your 50th Anniversary

Massey-Harris Sales & Service — Imperial Oil Products
Full line of Machinery for Every Farm.
"From coast to coast, Massey-Harris offers Most!"

Agent:

Norman D. Rosengren

Congratulations . . .

MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on this your 50th Anniversary

Your growth and progress
has been marked through
the years.

E. G. HANNA

Gravel Hauling

General Trucking

These changed conditions in the rural district would naturally have a favorable effect on business and on urban life in general. This set some people thinking of social improvements such as a hospital for those in need of hospital care and a skating and curling rink for those in need of recreation.

The Midale branch of the Canadian Legion had been negotiating for the purchasing of the Chandler airport building to have it moved to Midale to be used as a Legion hall. As it was considered that this building could be made suitable for the local needs of a hospital, the Legion members not only gave up any claim they might have had, but assisted the hospital committee in securing the building. On recommendation by the Department of Public Health, the formation of a Union Hospital was established under the Saskatchewan Hospital Plan. The Union Hospital District consisted of the Village and the Rural Municipality of Cymri, No. 36. A vote was taken on the by-law for an estimated cost of \$20,000. The poll was a record one and one of the notable features of the results was the fact that the village electors gave a one hundred per cent favorable ballot

Moser's Barber Shop

"Towels clean and Razor keen"

**CONGRATULATIONS MIDALE
ON YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY**

Wanted daily 300 men to carry out
haircuts and Gospel Tracts.

Mose the Barber
You are next.



Congratulations to
MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on your Fiftieth Anniversary — 1903-1953

For All Your Insurance Needs
See Your Saskatchewan Government Insurance Agent
EMIL SWENSON
Phone 32 — Midale, Sask.

and throughout the entire district the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the hospital. The members of the Hospital Board were H. L. Egland, Cairns McLeod, Peter Hultgren and secretary-treasurer G. A. H. Molberg. After the illness of Mr. Egland, Mr. Elmer Kramer has been a member of the Board.

Alteration work on the hospital building was done partly by community volunteer help and partly by hired skilled labourers. It meant remodelling the entire interior and everything had to be in accordance with hospital requirements. This was done and up-to-date hospital equipment purchased. The hospital was officially opened on March 7, 1949. The occasion was highlighted by the presence of the Honorable T. C. Douglas, Premier of Saskatchewan, who cut the ribbon and was the guest speaker at a public meeting in the town hall. A large number of congratulators were present bringing greetings from near and far. Some of the people who gathered were not able to get inside the hall but were seated on benches placed on main street, and listened to the program by means of a speaker

Lake of the Woods Milling Co.

1906 — 1953

"Millers of the Famous Five Roses Flour."

J. A. Pollock - Local Agent

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MIDALE
ON THEIR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY**

P. C. MORTON

JOHN DEERE AGENT

Phone 24 — Midale, Sask.

Machines — Parts — Service

Coleman Heaters — Booker Furnaces

Goodyear and Seiberling Tires

**Congratulations to Midale
on their Fiftieth Anniversary**

system. This was a day long to be remembered in Midale and District.

Now, after four years of hospital service, the citizens of the Hospital District can look back over these years with a feeling of satisfaction. The hospital has filled a definite need and it makes one wonder how it was possible to get along without a hospital for so long. The hospital has a fine record in the treatment of the sick, and 309 babies have had their first days of care in this hospital. The financial situation is also in fine shape. The staff has been most efficient. Mrs. Helen Gibney served well as Matron until September, 1951. Since then Mrs. Jack Pollock has ably held the position of Matron at the hospital.

Two men deserve special mention at this time. They are Dr. Wm. Mainprize for his untiring efforts in the care of the sick and for his generous contributions towards the requirements in the hospital. The other man is Mr. H. L. Egland for the interest he showed

Congratulations Midale

on your
Fiftieth Anniversary

MR. FARMER . . .

For a small fee you can participate in a Farmer's Compensation Service which provides compensation for injury up to 2 years. It pays an accidental death benefit and a loss of limb benefit.

Hail Insurance — Fire Insurance

P. H. BARKER — Phone 52
Midale, Sask.

1947

MITCHELL GENERAL STORE

1958

Congratulations to . . .

MIDALE AND DISTRICT
on a Half Century of steady improvement
and development.

MIDALE

From a small unknown village
To a booming Oil-well town
Also famous for tillage
May it always go up, not down.
Try our Up-to-Date and Modern Store

R. Mitchel, Proprietor

and for all the work he did for the hospital before the time of his illness.

The people of Midale and District had made history in the erection of a well equipped hospital, but community minded men and women were visualizing as in a dream the grand opening of the Midale Memorial Rink which was freely discussed and planned for by both young and old. A rink committee was appointed to investigate every possibility of creating a building fund large enough to warrant the purchase of a location and material for the rink.

As an example of long-view planning, some twenty-five farmers under the leadership of Dean Webster rented a three-quarter section farm in the spring of 1948 and had the fields seeded in one day. Even the seed was donated. A good crop was harvested and the net proceeds gave the building fund a sizeable start. This, together with cash donations, gave the committee the signal to go ahead. A hangar at the Estevan Airport was purchased and a crew of men under the able leadership of Lawrence Ironside and Charley

Midale Memorial Rink

In operation since 1949

"The Recreational Centre for All Ages"

"Where good sportsmanship is practised"

Congratulations Midale on this your Jubilee Year!

1953: President C. E. Scharnatta; Sec.-Treasurer John Molberg

Past Presidents — P. S. Archibald; L. J. Ironside

Past Sec.-Treasurers — G. A. H. Molberg; G. H. Morris

Midale Local Lodge of
The Farmers' Union

"Where there is Unity there is Strength"

**Congratulations Midale and District
on 50 Years of Progress**

Albin Carlson, President Roy Sjostrand, Sec.-Treas.

Scharnatta was organized. The dismantling went on as had been planned. A truck was purchased to haul the building material to Midale. Taking advantage of the exceptionally fine weather in the fall of 1949, the building program was really put into high gear. An experienced rink building carpenter was hired as foreman and a number of men each day donated their labor to the rink. Bud Isely was put in charge of the supplies, earnestly hoping that the material would last until the building was completed. Except for the shingling, the rink was finished in the early part of the winter, but the official opening did not take place until March 15, 1950. An estimated crowd of twelve hundred gathered in the rink to watch and listen to the proceedings. Guest speaker for the occasion was Mr. E. W. Stinson of Regina, director of the Saskatchewan Recreational Movement. He was followed by addresses from representatives of local and neighboring towns and districts. At this time the truck was sold.

Midale Union Hospital

Established 1948

R.M. of Cymri No. 36 and Village of Midale

Chairman, Peter Hultgren — Sec.-Treasurer, G. A. H. Molberg
Board Members — J. W. C. McLeod and E. H. Kramer
Honorary Member — Mrs. W. G. Mainprize

**Congratulations Midale
on this your 50th Anniversary!**

As a resident of Midale and District,
I extend Congratulations
on your 50th Anniversary.

W. G. Mainprize, M.D.

The Memorial Rink as it now stands is built for regulation hockey and has three sheets of curling ice, a lunch room, hockey dressing rooms, a large waiting room and an up-to-date heating plant.

This impressive building, with an estimated value of \$45,000 all fully paid, is an unquestionable proof of what can be accomplished when people have a vision and are willing to pool part of their resources and work together.

During the last few years a number of new homes have been established in Midale. The new residential district in the north section of town is all built up. Expansion is now being made in other directions. Several house trailers are in use due to an oil boom in the district. Not far from town is a promising producing oil well. Drilling is going on at two other locations.

The district might hold numerous hidden possibilities for the future.

Congratulations Midale on your 50th Anniversary!

Midale Homemakers' Club

**WE STAND
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY
Organized 1922**

First Officers:

President Mrs. H. Egland; Vice-Pres. Mrs. J. W. Ball
Sec. Treasurer Mrs. W. G. Mainprize

Present Officers:

President Mrs. W. Rosengren; Vice-Pres. Mrs. G. Goranson
Sec.-Treasurer Mrs. W. G. Mainprize

In celebrating the fiftieth Jubilee, much could be said about the present fine business establishments in Midale. But the rather modest business men have asked that this be omitted from the history. It is therefore suggested that the congratulatory advertisements appearing in this booklet be read the second time.

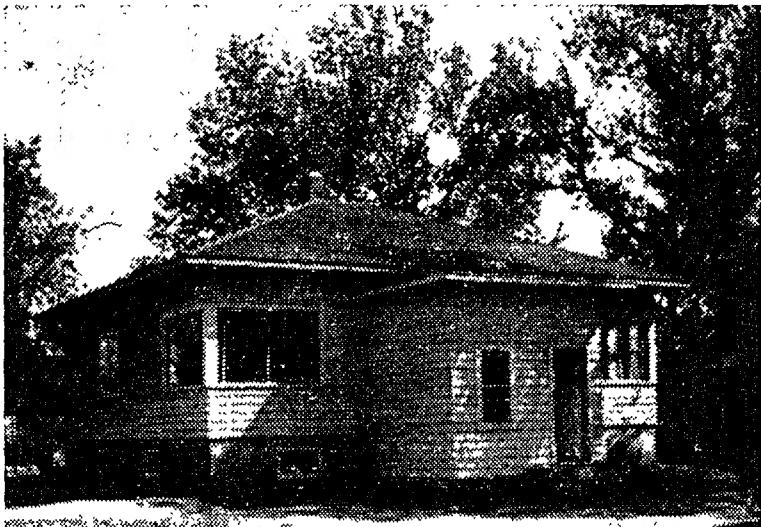
One noticeable advancement over the fifty year period is seen in education. In the early years of the settlement only a favored few had a chance to take advanced studies. Now it is quite common. In this respect Midale has a fine record. Over the last sixteen years well over one hundred students have graduated from the Midale high school.

During the years Midale has been fortunate in having an efficient teaching staff both past and present. Paul Barker has ably served this school as principal for sixteen years. Mrs. Tom Nordby has eight terms of teaching to her credit, which her husband, Mr. Nordby, has been engaged as janitor of the school over the same period. Other present teachers are Leonard Newman, Mrs. Paul Bachorick, Miss Dorothy Stef and Mrs. Roy Wilkie.

This historical sketch draws to a close. The writer wishes to thank all those who so kindly have assisted in gathering material and data to make this history possible.

Now in stepping over the half-century mark, the citizens of Midale and district do so with a feeling of recognition to the pioneers, and also with a silent prayer to their Maker asking for His guidance so that event greater advancement and prosperity may be achieved during the next fifty years.

Fifty years of progress is history. Good luck and fortune to all those who have a part in the next fifty years.



Office of the R.M. of Cymri, No. 36

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